DCI-IC 74-1145

29 November 1974

AT

MEMORANDUM FOR: [ ]

SUBJECT   : ASD(I) Staff Reaction to Project SAFE Briefing

1. Messrs. Goulder, Albrecht, Solat and Jackson of ASD(I) staff were briefed on Project SAFE by [ ]   ST on 19 November 1974.

2. In a phone conversation on 27 November, I learned that ASD(I) staff is preparing a memorandum for Dr. Hall to identify points re SAFE that need more investigation. In general, while agreeing with the need to provide automated capabilities to intelligence analysts, ASD(I) staff has some major reservations about SAFE, including:

- apparent non-awareness by CIA of research already underway in DoD on SAFE-related problems;

- belief that SAFE project costs are considerably un-derestimated in total, and that proposed software costs, in particular, are underestimated in relation to hardware (CRS estimates software at only some 20% of hardware, whereas a general rule of thumb today is that both types of costs are likely to be about equal).

ASD(I) staff is suggesting that the IR&D Council be asked to look into the plan for further SAFE development.

3. ASD(I) staff initially has thought that Dr. Hall might write to Mr. Colby to express these views. On 27 November I suggested edi-torial changes to soften such a letter. Upon further reflection, I phoned Al Albrecht today and urged that views of this sort be expressed orally to D/DCI/IC and not put in writing. I said that a letter along these critical lines would be very inflammatory and counter-productive to the community at a time when we need to encourage CIA to greater community participation. Albrecht appears to agree and will convey   ST my message to the ASD(I) front office.

C/IHC

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